

Listing of Claims:

1. (currently amended) A computer-implemented method of simulcasting multimedia content to enable seamless migration from a first multimedia receiver to a second multimedia receiver, the second multimedia receiver supporting at least one encryption format not supported by the first multimedia receiver, the method comprising:

encrypting a group of original multimedia channel keys using a first encryption format decryptable by the first multimedia receiver to produce a first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys;

encrypting said same group of original multimedia channel keys using a second encryption format decryptable by the second multimedia receiver to produce a second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys, the second encryption format being developed after the first encryption format, and the second multimedia receiver being developed after the first multimedia receiver; and

concurrently transmitting said first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys with said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys to a plurality of multimedia subscribers having either the first multimedia receiver[[s]] or the second multimedia receiver, wherein said first group of encrypted multimedia channel keys is decryptable by the first multimedia receiver and ~~and/or~~ said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys is ~~are~~ decryptable by ~~said~~ the second multimedia receiver but not the first multimedia receiver receivers.

2. (currently amended) The method as in claim 1 wherein said second ~~type of~~ encryption format is digital video broadcasting ("DVB") encryption.

3. (currently amended) The method as in claim 1 further comprising:
transmitting entitlement information with said group of multimedia channel keys encrypted using said second ~~type of~~ encryption format, said entitlement information indicating which of said multimedia channels a user has the right to decrypt.

4. (original) The method as in claim 3 further comprising:
decrypting said second group of encrypted multimedia channel keys at a multimedia receiver.

5. (original) The method as in claim 4 further comprising:
searching said entitlement information to determine whether said user has the right to view a particular channel selected by said user; and
decrypting said channel using one of said decrypted keys if said user has said right.

6 – 10. (canceled)

11. (currently amended) A system for processing multimedia channels to enable seamless migration from a first multimedia receiver to a second multimedia receiver, the second multimedia receiver supporting at least one encryption format not supported by the first multimedia receiver, the system comprising:

a computer readable storage medium having stored thereon original decryption keys for decrypting said multimedia channels, wherein each original decryption key is successively encrypted in both a first encryption format and a second encryption format to produce first and second encrypted decryption keys, respectively, the second encryption format being developed after the first encryption format, the second multimedia receiver being developed after the first multimedia receiver;

said decryption keys encrypted in said first encryption format being decryptable by the ~~the~~ ^{[[a]]} first multimedia receiver ~~corresponding to the first encryption format;~~ and

said decryption keys encrypted in said second encryption format being decryptable by the ~~the~~ ^{[[a]]} second multimedia receiver but not the first multimedia receiver ~~corresponding to the second encryption format.~~

12. (previously presented) The system as in claim 11 wherein said second encryption format permits all of said decryption keys to be decrypted in real-time as they are received by said multimedia receiver.

13. (original) The system as in claim 12 wherein said second encryption format is digital video broadcast ("DVB") encryption.

14. (original) The system as in claim 11 further comprising:
transmitting entitlement information indicating which of said multimedia channels a user has a right to view.

15. (original) The system as in claim 14 further comprising:
said second type of multimedia receiver decrypting only those keys identified by said entitlement information.

16. (currently amended) The system as in claim 14 further comprising:
said second ~~type of~~ multimedia receiver being configured to decrypt ~~decrypting~~ said decryption keys and using said decryption keys to decrypt multimedia channels identified by said entitlement information.

17. (currently amended) The system as in claim 11 further comprising:
said second ~~type of~~ multimedia receiver being configured to decrypt ~~decrypting~~ ~~one or more of said keys~~ a decryption key and ~~use using the decryption key~~ ~~said one or more keys~~ to decrypt a multimedia channel ~~one or more multimedia channels~~; and
said second ~~type of~~ multimedia receiver further being configured to re-encrypt ~~re-encrypting~~ said multimedia channel ~~channels~~ using an alternative encryption format not decryptable by said first multimedia receiver.

18. (previously presented) The system as in claim 17 wherein said alternative encryption format is digital video broadcast ("DVB") encryption.

19. (currently amended) The system as in claim 17 ~~further comprising:~~
wherein the first and second multimedia receivers are configured to store ~~storing~~ said multimedia channels in said alternative encryption format on a mass storage device.

20. (currently amended) The system as in claim 19 ~~further comprising:~~
wherein the first and second multimedia receivers are configured to decrypt and play
~~decrypting and playing back one or more of~~ said multimedia channel ~~channels~~ from said mass storage device responsive to a user request to play back ~~said one or more~~ of said multimedia channel ~~channels~~.

21. (new) A method of simulcasting multimedia content to enable seamless migration from a first type of multimedia receiver to a second type of multimedia receiver, the method comprising:

encrypting a channel key using a standard encryption format decryptable by the first type of multimedia receiver to generate a first encrypted channel key;

encrypting said channel key using a non-standard encryption format decryptable by the second type of multimedia receiver but not by the first type of multimedia receiver, to provide a second encrypted channel key;

concurrently transmitting the first and second encrypted channel keys to first and second multimedia receivers of the first type and second type, respectively;

transmitting an encrypted channel to the first and second multimedia receivers;

within the first multimedia receiver:

decrypting the first encrypted channel key using a standard decryption format to recover the channel key; and

decrypting the encrypted channel using the channel key; and

within the second multimedia receiver:

decrypting the second encrypted channel key using a non-standard decryption to recover the channel key; and

decrypting the encrypted channel using the channel key.

22. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein the standard encryption format comprises CA encryption.

23. (new) The method of claim 21 wherein the non-standard encryption format comprises open encryption.